

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

1. (Canceled)
2. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 21, wherein each of the veneer sheets includes a separating material provided on one side thereof, and wherein the heating step is effected in a device that supplies the heat.
3. (Canceled)
4. (Currently amended) The method according to claim ~~3~~ 21, wherein a fabric is arranged between the intermediate layer of the core material and each of the respective veneer sheets.
5. (Canceled)
6. (Currently amended) The fire-retardant flat structural member according to claim ~~5~~ 20, wherein each of the veneer sheets includes a separating material provided on one side thereof.

7. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 2, wherein the separating material is at least one of a release paper and a release foil.

8. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 2, wherein the device is at least one of a heating press and an autoclave.

9. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 4, wherein the fabric is a fiber fabric.

10. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 4, wherein the fabric is resin-impregnated.

11. (Currently amended) The member according to claim ~~5~~ 6, wherein the separating material is at least one of a release paper and a release foil.

12-13. (Canceled)

14. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 21, wherein the applied pressure is from 0.5 to 7 bar.

15. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 21, wherein the fire-retardant flat structural member is produced over a period of time of from 10 to 120 minutes.

16-17. (Canceled)

18. (Previously presented) A fire-retardant flat structural member, produced according to the method of claim 21.

19. (Canceled)

20. (Currently amended) A fire-retardant flat structural member configured as a composite body comprising:

two veneer sheets with an intermediate layer of a core material located therebetween to provide the composite body, the veneer sheets having pores (i) from which water has been removed as a vapor phase through edges of the member by heating the veneer sheets and resin films initially disposed ~~thereon~~ between the intermediate layer of the core material and the respective veneer sheet on each side of the intermediate layer under an applied pressure and (ii) that are subsequently provided with liquefied resin drawn from the resin films initially disposed on the veneer sheets under the applied pressure by action of the vapor phase water drawing the liquefied resin into the pores by capillary action.

21. (Currently amended) A method of producing a fire-retardant flat structural member configured as a composite body comprising the steps of:

providing at least two veneer sheets and an intermediate layer of a core material located therebetween to provide the composite body;

disposing a resin film ~~on each of the veneer sheets~~ between the intermediate layer of the core material and the respective veneer sheet on each side of the intermediate layer, the veneer sheets having pores; and

supplying heat to the veneer sheets such that (i) water bound in the pores of the veneer sheets evaporates and is exhausted from the pores thereof and (ii) the resin films are liquefied by the heat, the exhausting evaporated water drawing the liquefied resin films into the pores of the veneer sheets by capillary action,

the step of heating being effected under an applied pressure such that the evaporated water exhausted from the pores flows out through edges of the member.